

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Bureau of Standards
Division of Building and Housing
(January 20, 1933)

Letter
Circular
LC-355

Key to Minimum Requirements Recommended by the Department
of Commerce Building Code Committee

The Committee has not yet covered all phases of building regulation. It has, however, issued seven reports. Of these, that entitled Recommended Practice for Arrangement of Building Codes contains an approved arrangement for a code. Using this as an index, this list has been drawn up showing what recommended requirements are to be found in the Committee's other reports. In some of these it will be noted that the decimal points used in numbering have been replaced by dashes. Wherever the section referred to contains a further reference to a paragraph in the Appendix of the report, this should be studied carefully. The Appendix to each report also contains much additional information of value to those preparing local codes.

Following is a list of the reports issued to date, together with the identifying letters used in the list. They may be obtained, together with their supplements, from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., at the prices indicated (currency or money order):

- BH6 -- Recommended Minimum Requirements for Masonry Wall Construction, B.S. Building and Housing No. 6, 1925, with supplement, 1931, (BH6, 15¢)
- BH7 -- Minimum Live Loads Allowable for Use in Design of Buildings, B.S. Building and Housing No. 7, 1925. (BH7, 10¢)
- BH8 -- Recommended Practice for Arrangement of Building Codes, B.S. Building and Housing No. 8, 1925. (BH8, 10¢)
- BH9 -- Recommended Building Code Requirements for Working Stresses

in Building Materials, B.S. Building and Housing No. 9, 1926. Mimeographed Letter Circular 349 modifying this is obtainable from the Division of Building and Housing, Bureau of Standards, Washington, D.C.

- BH13 -- Recommended Minimum Requirements for Plumbing, B.S. Building and Housing No. 13, 1932. (BH13, 35¢)
- BH14 -- Recommended Minimum Requirements for Fire Resistance in Buildings, B.S. Building and Housing No. 14, 1931 (BH14, 10¢)
- BH18 -- Recommended Minimum Requirements for Small Dwelling Construction, B.S. Building and Housing No. 18, 1932 (BH18, 10¢)

KEY TO MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Subject	Section No. Code Arrange-- ment Re-- port	Re- port	Page	Section Number	Remarks
ADMINISTRATION	1				Chapter in
General Provisions	1.1				process
Enforcement	1.2				
DEFINITIONS	2				Definitions
Definitions	2.1				will now be
					found in var-
					ious reports.
					To be consol-
					idated later.
					Where two
					definitions
					of the same
					thing are
					found in dif-
					ferent re-
					ports, use
					that found in
					the later e-
					dition.
CLASSIFICATIONS	3				
Classifications of					
buildings by oc-					
cupancy	3.1	BH14	3	3-1	
Classifications by					
type of construc-					
tion	3.2	BH14	4	3-2	

Subject	Section No. Code Arrange- ment Re- port	Re- port	Page	Section Number	Remarks
GENERAL BUILDING RESTRICTIONS	4				
Restrictions as to location	4.1	BH14	5	4-1	
Restrictions as to height	4.2	BH14	6	4-2	
Restrictions as to areas	4.3	BH14	8	4-3	
Restrictions as to location on pro- perty	4.4				
Construction types for special occup- ancies	4.5	BH14	11	4-5	
ZONING	5				Zoning is fre- quently covered in a separate or- dinance. For in- formation consult Preparation of Zoning Ordinances, by the Advisory Committee on City Planning and Zon- ing
LIGHT & VENTILATION	6				Essentials are under investiga- tion
MEANS OF EGRESS	7				Recommendations on this subject are substantially completed but not yet published.
MATERIALS, LOADS AND STRESSES	8				Recommendations are at present contained in sev- eral reports.
Quality of Materi- als	8.1				These are being
Grades	8.11	BH6	5, 9, 12,	2, 9, 17,	consolidated and
			15	28, 32	brought up-to-date
		BH9	6, 7	2, 8, 3.4	In the meantime,
				4.2	existing recommen-
		BH18	8, 9, 11	3-1, 4-1	dations with sup-
				5-1	plements issued
					from time to time
					should be used.

Subject	Section No. Code	Re- Arrange- ment Re- port	Page	Section Number	Remarks
Materials, Loads and Stresses (Cont'd.)					Consult changes in mimeographed Letter Circular LC-349
Tests	8.12	BH6	10,19	9,45	
Loads	8.2	BH7	5	2	
		BH18	6,13,17	1-4,5-8	
				8-1	
Dead	8.21				See Appendix BH18, Page 27
Live	8.22	BH7	5,6,7,8	3,4,5,6	See BH18, Page 6, 1-5 for change in BH7, Page 5, Sec. 3 as to dwelling floors
				7,9,10	
Wind Pressures	8.23	BH18	6,7	1-5,1-6	
		BH7	7	8	
		BH18	7,14	1-6,7-2	
ALLOWABLE WORKING STRESSES	8.3	BH9	5,6,7,8	1,2,3,	See mimeographed Letter Circular LC-349 for changes in some sections. See printed supple- ment to BH6 dated 1931 for changes
		BH6	6,10,13	4,5	
			14,15,	4,11,19	
			16	24,29,	
				33	
Bearing Values of Soils	8.4				See BH18, Page 30, Par. 7 for es- timates
CONSTRUCTION	9	BH18			
Workmanship	9.1		14	7-1	Complete re- quirements are in process
		BH9	5	1	
Excavations	9.2				
Foundations	9.3	BH6	18	43	
		BH18	7	2-2	
Footings	9.31	BH18	7	2-1	
Pile Foundations	9.32				
Retaining Walls	9.33				
Vaults & Areaways	9.34				
Masonry	9.4				
Solid Brick Walls	9.41	BH6	6,7,8,9	3,5,6,7	
				8	
		BH18	8,9	3-2,3-3	
				3-4,3-5	
				3-6	

Subject	Section No. Code Arrange- ment Re- port	Re- port	Page	Section Number	Remarks
Construction					
Workmanship (Cont'd.)					
Hollow Walls	9.42	BH6	10,11	10,12, 13,14, 15,16	
		BH18	10,11	4-2,4-3: 4-4,4-5: 4-6,4-7:	
Walls of plain	9.43	BH6	12,13, 14	18,20,21 22,23	
		BH18	12	5-2,5-3: 5-4,5-5:	
Stone Walls	9.44	BH6	14,15	25,26,27	
Veneered Walls	9.45	BH6	15	30, 31	
		BH18	10,13 14	4-2,6-2: 6-3	
Faced Walls	9.46	BH6	16	34,35	
		BH18	10	4-2	
Party, fire and fire division walls	9.47	BH6	7,9,16 17,18	5,8,36 37,38,39 40,41, 42	Term for divis- ion wall subse- quently changed to fire partition
		BH14	12	11-2	For fire resis-
		BH18	17,18	9-1,9-3: 9-4	tance require- ments concerning these see BH14
Miscellaneous mas- onry wall require- ments	9.48	BH6	19,20	44,46, 47,48, 49	
Reinforced Concrete	9.5	BH9	5	2	For changes see
		BH18	13	5-7	mimeographed Letter Circular LC-349
Iron and Steel	9.6	BH18	17	8-1	
		BH9	7	3,4	ditto
Wood	9.7				
Ordinary	9.71	BH9	8	5	
		BH18	14,15, 16,17	7-2,7-3: 7-4,7-5:	
Mill or Slow Burn- ing	9.72	BH9	8	5	Terms Mill or Slow Burning and
Semi-mill	9.73	BH9	8	5	Semi-mill subse-
Frame	9.74	BH18	13,14, 15,16, 17	6-1,7-1: 7-2,7-3: 7-4,7-5:	quently changed to Heavy Timber. For fire resis- tance require-

Subject	Section No. Code Arrange- ment Re- port	Re- port	Page	Section Number	Remarks
Construction Wood Frame (Cont'd.) Plastering	9.8				ments see BH14 See BH18, Ap- pendix, Page 70, Pars. 40, 41, 42, 43, 44
PRECAUTIONS DURING BUILDING OPERATIONS	10				In process
Storage of materials	10.1				
Protection of public	10.2				
Protection of work- men	10.3				
Protection of ad- jacent property	10.4				
Utility and sanita- tion requirements	10.5				
FIRE PROTECTION	11				For ultimate fire resistance of various build- ing constructions see Appendix BH14, Page 29, Par. 6
Fire Resistive Ma- terials	11.1	BH14	11	11-1	
Protection of Structural Members	11.2	BH14	12	11-2-1, 11-2-2, 11-2-3, 11-2-4, 11-2-5, 11-2-6	
Floors	11.3	BH14	14	11-3	
Partitions	11.4	BH14	14	11-4	
Protection of Verti- cal Openings	11.5	BH14	14	11-5	
Protection of Wall and Partition Open- ings	11.6	BH14	15	11-6	
Ceilings	11.7		16	11-7	
Roof Structures & Roofing	11.8	BH14	17	11-8	
Fire Stopping	11.9	BH14	18	11-9	
		BH18	23	10-4	
CHIMNEYS AND HEATING APPLIANCES	12	BH18	19, 20, 21, 22	10-1, 10-2, 10-3	

Subject	Section No. Code	Arrange- ment Re- port	Re- port	Page	Section Number	Remarks
SPECIAL OCCUPANCY PRO- VISIONS	13					
Theaters, assembly halls & similar buildings	13.1					
Factories, mercan- tile & similar buildings	13.2					
Places of instruc- tions	13.3					
Hotels, apartments & similar occupancies	13.4					
ELEVATORS	14					
PLUMBING	15					
Definition of terms	15.1	BH13	18	1 to 18		
General Regulations	15.2	BH13	20	19 to 25		
Quality & Weight of Materials	15.3		21	26 to 30		
Joints & Connec- tions	15.4		24	41 to 55		
Traps & Cleanouts	15.5		26	56 to 69		
Water Supply & Dis- tribution	15.6		28	70 to 79		
Plumbing Fixtures	15.7		30	80 to 87		
Ventilation of rooms & Fixtures	15.8		31	88 to 89		
Soil, waste & vent Pipes	15.9		32 to 35	90, 92 to 107		
			281	91		
House drains and Sewers	15.10		36 to 39	108 to 114, 117		See Supplement bound in back of printed re- port
			282, 283	115, 116		
Storm Waste Drains	15.11		40, 41	123 to 131		
Refrigeration, Safe and Special Wastes	15.12		42	132 to 134		
Maintenance	15.13		43	135 to 136		
Inspection & Tests	15.14		44, 45, 46	137 to 153		
HEATING	16					To be combined with Chapter 12

